

THE NEWARK HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION'S

11th ANNUAL REPORT



Fallick Aerial Survey
Courtesy of Newark Central Planning Board

FOR THE YEAR 1963

This report is a summary of what we have done in the past year in our efforts to eliminate racial prejudices and discrimination and to further better understanding among the many ethnic groups in our City.

The Commission wishes to acknowledge the cooperation and support it has received from the many agencies, both public and private, who helped to make our task, in this important field of intergroup relations, easier and more extensive.

COMMISSION SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS

The Commission's doors are open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and beyond those hours whenever necessary.

As a result of encouragement to the public-at-large in utilizing its professional services, we have assisted over 2,190 people with their problems. Individual requests for aid consisted of:

1. Finding apartments for those in need.
2. Opening up and securing employment and upgrading opportunities for those to whom such opportunities were formerly closed.
3. Investigation of eviction complaints; finding of emergency shelter for the homeless.
4. Assisting newly-arrived immigrants and migrants to schools for learning English, and bettering their status by orienting them to higher education and trades.



Hugh J. Addonizio
Mayor

The racial strife, which is fact and not fiction in our cities, states and nation today, is an ordeal of our times that is a challenge to the maturity, responsibility and ultimate destiny of the American people.

The time has come throughout this Nation when one man's freedom must be every man's freedom. One man's equality must be every man's equality. One man's opportunity must be every man's opportunity.

We must recognize that while these are days of great difficulty, that these are also the days for great opportunity. The opportunity to prove to ourselves and to the world that the American dream is no longer an illusion but an actuality.

We are submitting herewith in our Annual Report of the work of the Newark Human Rights Commission and its staff, pledging to the citizens of our City our untiring efforts to continue to labor in the field of human rights, hoping to realize that in our lifetime hatred and bigotry will vanish and all Americans may live and experience the freedom that belongs to all people—so that all of us can continue to remain free.

COUNCILMEN

RALPH A. VILLANI, *Council President*

FRANK ADDONIZIO

LEE BERNSTEIN

MICHAEL A. BONTEMPO

JOHN A. BRADY

ANTHONY GIULIANO

PHILIP E. GORDON

JOSEPH V. MELILLO

IRVINE I. TURNER

ANNUAL REPORT OF NEWARK HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

This Eleventh Annual Report of the Newark Human Rights Commission is submitted by the members and staff of the Commission for the year of 1963. Created in 1952, the Commission has stepped up its activity and increased the size of its staff in order to fulfill its functions more effectively.

The Commission has been the municipal instrument of active service to the citizens of our City's changing population in helping them live together amid widely diversified patterns of national backgrounds, religious orientations, and racial groupings. It has studied the procedures of other organizations working in this field and adapted for its use those ideas that were relevant and applied them to our needs.

In addition to the traditional methods utilized by intergroup relations agencies, the Commission has introduced new procedures for bringing into prominence the creative arts resources of the community. Literary personalities, artists, educators, and musicians have cooperated to bring into focus the major themes of the struggle to achieve full human rights for all men.

The functions, as stated in the City Ordinance, are "to foster mutual understanding and respect among all racial, religious and ethnic groups in the City of Newark; to cooperate with Federal, State, Municipal and non-governmental agencies . . .".

Other activities of the Commission are:

1. Formulate and carry out educational programs that will aid in eliminating and preventing all types of prejudice and discrimination based on race, creed or national origin.
2. Issue publications, reports of investigations and research which tend to promote goodwill.
3. Enlist the cooperation of various civic, labor, fraternal, professional and other groups in educational campaigns to improve intergroup relations.
4. Aid in the formation of local community groups and help formulate programs to lessen tensions among various components of the City's population.
5. Develop programs showing the contributions of various cultures, religious and ethnic groups to the culture of the City, State and the Union.
6. Make recommendations to governmental authorities for the development of policies that will aid in promoting general respect among America's diverse cultural groups while at the same time encouraging the use of their respective traditions.



Ralph Zion
Acting Executive Director



Marie Gonzalez
Community Relations
Specialist
Puerto Rican and
Spanish Affairs Specialist



John T. Barnes
Community Relations
Specialist

NEWARK WELCOMES CUBAN EXILES

THE BISHOP STARK CUBAN FLIGHT.

*Marie Gonzalez, NHRC
Mayor Hugh J. Addonizio
and Bishop Leland Stark*



The year's work was highlighted by the efforts of this Agency to aid in the intensive relocation, adaptation and seeking of employment for Cuban exiles in the City. Mrs. Marie Gonzalez, Puerto Rican and Spanish Affairs Coordinator, organized an on-going program of orientation which has been most valuable in making the Cuban refugees feel at home in Newark.

THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS MASSIVE STATE AND FEDERAL AID TO COMBAT SOCIAL PROBLEMS

In 1963, our Agency urged Newark's Mayor and City Council to seek "massive Federal and State aid" to help solve Newark's social problems. In a report presented by the staff, the Commission stated: "If cities like Newark are to be socially improved—or even remain moderately functional—massive State aid and Federal financial assistance are called for at once. Central cities can no longer pay the freight for society's ills; the State and Federal governments must provide an emergency program to improve opportunities in education and employment for young people, so that Newark can get on its feet socially, educationally and thereafter economically."

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RESIGNS

Daniel S. Anthony, executive director of the Newark Human Rights Commission since 1952, submitted his resignation on July 13, 1963. Mr. Anthony had given distinguished service to the Commission from its very inception.

Mr. Ralph Zinn, assistant director, was named to serve as Acting Executive Director until the position is filled.

CLERGY ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Commission and the Mayor succeeded in re-establishing the Clergy Advisory Council in 1963. The purpose of the Commission-sponsored Clergy Advisory Council is to utilize the influence of the Clergy in mobilizing their spiritual and moral forces in the City, toward the attainment of a full human and civil rights group for all of Newark's residents.

The Clergy representatives organized and decided that they would be separate from, although working closely with, the Human Rights Commission and all other agencies working toward the same goals.

The Clergy Council agreed to work closely with all committees and phases of the Commission.

THE ANTI-BLOCKBUSTING ORDINANCE

The Commission staff, in cooperation with the City Council and Mayor Addonizio, helped put into effect an Ordinance which prohibits real estate agents from presenting false and damaging statements to homeowners which might incite neighborhood unrest, fear and panic selling.

THE BARRINGER AFFAIR

On July third, a group of Newark organizations called to public attention the lack of employment opportunities in construction industries that existed for Negroes and Puerto Ricans.

They organized picketing demonstrations which took place at the construction site of the new Barringer High School. Serious tensions arose and work was stopped at the site. The Commission was directed by Mayor Hugh J. Addonizio to investigate the charges and counter-charges that followed.

Facts in connection with employment policies were obtained by the Commission's Executive Director, Daniel Anthony and the staff. These were presented at a special public meeting on July 9, 1963. After a six-hour hearing which included statements from many persons concerned with the problem, the Commission found "evidence of a pattern of discrimination among certain contractors and within the building trades which tend to show that certain local unions covering the skilled trades have followed customs and practices which have inevitably resulted in the exclusion of non-whites from the particular trades."

The Commission found that a "probable cause of discriminatory practices" existed. It requested that Mayor Addonizio meet immediately with those responsible for the employment of workmen on the Barringer project "with the view in mind of correcting the situation, so that existing racial tensions in Newark may be resolved."

HUMAN RELATIONS EXECUTIVE LUNCHEONS

The Newark Human Rights Commission continued to sponsor its Human Relations Executive Luncheons for intergroup relations workers, educators, clergymen, labor and management leaders. This informal group meets to exchange ideas and discuss new developments in the field which have practical implications for all service agencies in the field of human rights.



Swearing in of Commissioners:
Herbert Tate, Richard Foley, Benjamin Epstein
and Staff Member, Robert F. Phillips,
Field Worker and Research Assistant

NEW STAFF MEMBER NAMED TO COMMISSION

Robert F. Phillips was appointed in April, 1963, to serve as Field Worker and Research Assistant. Mr. Phillips, a graduate of Johnson C. Smith University, coordinated all youth activities. Mr. Phillips served the Commission until December, 1963, when he entered service with the Armed Forces.

MAYOR ADDONIZIO APPOINTS THREE NEW COMMISSIONERS

In May of 1963, Mayor Addonizio appointed Deputy Chief Richard J. Foley, Newark Police Department; Mr. Benjamin Epstein, Principal, Weequahic High School and Mr. Herbert H. Tate, Attorney-at-law, to serve on the 15-member Commission. The Commissioners serve without financial compensation to determine the policies of the Commission.



Swearing In of Commissioners:
William Purcell and Hickman Holmes



NEWARK HUMAN RIGHTS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP IN HUMAN RELATIONS

The Commission expanded its scholarship programs to include the Eleanor Roosevelt International Workshop in Human Relations. The recipients of four scholarships who attended the one-week program at Douglass College, Rutgers University, were Mr. Malcolm Ellington of the Tenant Relations Division, Newark Housing Authority; Mrs. Marie Gonzalez, Newark Human Rights Commission; Rev. Kim Jefferson, Executive Secretary of the Greater Newark Council of Churches and Mr. Ralph Zinn, Assistant Director of the Commission. The Workshop comprised 38 men and women from the United States and abroad.

ENCAMPMENT FOR CITIZENSHIP

The Commission awarded one six-week scholarship to Miss Esther Isacoff, to attend the Encampment for Citizenship in Puerto Rico. The Encampment is a non-sectarian, non-political, educational experience open to young persons between the ages of 10-23. The Agency has awarded Encampment scholarships since 1956.

BROTHERHOOD YOUTH INSTITUTE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Youth Institute is an annual project sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews. It is designed to give high school students an opportunity to learn more about human relations through an educational and social experience by discussing vital topical issues while sojourning on campus for one week. Walter D. Chambers, who directed the Institute campers, had formerly served on the Human Rights Commission as its assistant director.

Recipients of the Commission's Scholarship Awards were: Roselyn Baugh, Raymond Curtis, David Goldstein, Alex Gronsby, Dwayne Parker, John Rich, Valerie Smith, Patricia Swangin, Oscar Sykes and Robert Winfrey.

BROTHERHOOD AWARDS PROGRAM

In keeping with the tradition of Brotherhood activities, this Agency sponsored its Third Annual Brotherhood Awards Celebration.

Three educators were honored: Mrs. Paul D'Alessandro, Principal of Clinton Place Junior High School; Mr. Benjamin Epstein, Principal of Weequahic High School; Mrs. Clarence S. Janifer, Sr., a retired Newark school teacher. Two youth brotherhood awards were given to Newark Boys' Club members: Peter Rodino III and Stephen Lutz.

ALEXANDER MARK RETIRES AS CHAIRMAN

Mr. Alexander Mark, having served notably as Chairman for the past five years, declined reappointment to the Agency post for another term. In his reply to Mayor Addonizio's requests that he stay on, Mr. Mark cited the pressures and obligations of his post at the Newark Post Office as Superintendent of Training for the New Jersey District, as the reason for his decision.

During his eight years of service to our community, Mr. Mark devoted much of his energies to the success of the Commission's objectives. He was honored on June 18 at a public ceremony with the bestowal of a plaque from his fellow-Commissioners.

Mayor Addonizio extended words of warm praise and affection for his untiring devotion to mankind's greatest goal—equality for all.

DR. MAXWELL M. KAYE ELECTED

A member of the Newark Human Rights Commission since 1961, Dr. Maxwell M. Kaye was elected to succeed Mr. Alexander Mark as Chairman.

Dr. Kaye, a Newark optometrist, was born in Brooklyn and is a graduate of the Massachusetts College of Optometry in Boston.

Active in many professional, communal and religious organizations, Dr. Kaye is a member of the United Synagogue of America, National Board of Directors and past president of its Northern New Jersey Region. He is a member of the American, New Jersey and Essex County Optometric Association; the Doric Council of the Royal Arcanum. He is also affiliated with the Composite Lodge, No. 223, F and A. M.; the Jewish Committee on Scouting of Robert Treat Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Additional Commission posts were filled by the following members: Paul G. Caviechiz and Leonard L. Holman, vice chairmen; Mrs. Sylvia Josephson, secretary.

PERFORMANCE DATA

	ACTUAL 1961	ACTUAL 1962	ACTUAL 1963
<i>Complaints</i>			
Investigations of complaints not covered by Anti-Discrimination Law of the State of New Jersey. Also evaluation of complaints to determine relevancy to State Statutes and Jurisdiction of the N. J. Division on Civil Rights.	10	39	736
<i>Consultations and Conferences</i>			
Individual Consultations*	150	542	2190
Advisory Sessions	45	130	404
Educational Conferences	100	96	227
Participation in open public meetings	50	64	857
<i>Conferences with Civic and Social Agencies on:</i>			
1. Civil Rights on:			
(a) Housing;	60	49	885
(b) Blockbusting,			
(c) Employment,			
(d) Discrimination			
<i>Program Services and Special Projects</i>			
Reports and pamphlets.			21
Special programs planned for private organizations;	40	120	47
Speeches delivered,	120	62	387
Exhibits;			1
Workshops.			3

* Individual Consultations included requests for assistance in the following categories:

Directing newly-arrived non-English-speaking people to Americanization classes and other sources of training.

Investigation of eviction complaints and the finding of emergency shelters for the displaced.

Supplying information to human relations commissions, colleges, universities and students of all grade levels.

Securing jobs and opening up employment opportunities to those for whom such opportunities were formerly closed.

SUMMARY OF SALARIES AND WAGES AND OTHER EXPENSES

CLASS CODE	ITEM	1963 TOTAL OBLIGATIONS	1963 BUDGET APPROX
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
200	Service By Contract or Agreement	\$ 6,505	\$ 8,520
300	Materials and Supplies	5,191	5,400
400	Equipment	767	1,164
	<i>Total Other Expenses</i>	<i>\$12,463</i>	<i>\$15,084</i>
100	<i>Total Salaries and Wages</i>	<i>41,544</i>	<i>46,340</i>
1-6	<i>Total Human Rights Commission Newark</i>	<i>\$54,007</i>	<i>\$61,424</i>

SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS

In a year which has seen racial tensions multiply, the Newark Human Rights Commission and staff have accepted the challenge in meeting the increased demands of a social revolution on a local, regional and national scope.

The Staff of the Commission initiated several significant pilot projects.

1. It began planning a curriculum for Puerto Rican and other Spanish-speaking children. This project was initiated in May, 1963. A Conference on the subject began in the offices of Dr. Leonard Covello, educational director, Puerto Rican Commonwealth, New York City for the purpose of bringing to Newark curricular approaches which have been successful in the New York City Schools. This program was called to the attention of Mayor Addonizio, who has given it his endorsement. The Staff of the Commission is making arrangements to present the curriculum to the Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Education.

2. The Commission co-sponsored with the Newark Chapter of CORE a series of nine lectures on "Negroes in American Civilization" by Dr. August Meier of Morgan State College. Classes have averaged an attendance of more than 80.

3. The Commission and staff pressed for the passage of the National Service Act Bill by Congress, pointing out that there are 33,000,000 poverty-stricken people in this Nation, who are living below a self-subsistence level and that it is the responsibility of agencies, private and public, to attack the nagging symptoms of a national urban condition which threatens future national survival.

4. Much work has been directed to stabilizing Newark's neighborhoods through programs designed to fit individual areas. The Commission has purchased the film, *PROPERTY VALUES AND RACE*, now available to all schools, agencies and organizations without charge.

5. Members of the Commission staff assisted with the organizing of the Business Industrial Coordinating Committee of Newark, consisting of representatives of management, labor, social and civil rights agencies, dedicated to opening the wedge for the minority groups in the fields of employment and the upgrading of positions in our community. Mrs. Marie Gonzalez a staff member, serves as the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Civil Rights Problems.

6. A special edition of *Human Rights News* dealing with civil rights issues—past and present—as seen through the eyes of our Nation's writers, journalists, statesmen and poets, in dedication to the memory of the late President Kennedy was published.

7. The Commission sponsored an unusual cultural event, the International Festival of Children's Art. The exhibit, attracting 25,000 people, consisted of art work of young folk of 103 nations. The basic themes of children, human rights and international relations proved to be of exciting interest to Newark's cosmopolitan population.

8. The Commission has invited a limited number of youngsters to improve and expand their skills as office workers by giving them actual, everyday office experience for a stated time in the offices of the Commission. The training includes office etiquette, secretarial procedures, and the use of various business machines, such as the addressograph, multigraph, etc.

9. Early in January, 1963, the Commission took steps to evaluate the concern of the Newark community in reference to the Black Muslims. An informal opinion survey on the subject was made by John T. Barnes, Community Relations Specialist, among community leaders, members of the press, educators and a broad spectrum of persons in other occupational categories.

The results were mainly the overall sessions of Mr. Barnes in the observation of the local sect's leadership; he was able to evaluate the organization and develop their confidence.

During the weeks following, a pre-planning meeting took place with Mr. Dan Anthony, Mr. Barnes and James XXX. The groundwork for an Open Forum in a suitable meeting-place was finalized at this informal interview.

Although "basically orderly," Mr. Barnes cautioned that steps be taken by the municipal leadership, counteracting the prevailing frustration of the sect as an antidote to its creed.

Despite limitations of a major staff change, crowded quarters, and appropriate staff salary levels, 1963 has been a year of accomplishment for the Commission. Members of the Commission have, with the support of Mayor Addonizio, undertaken studies and steps to overcome impediments to the successful carrying out of the Commission's work.



THE CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

It is with much pride that we, the residents of one of the largest cities in this nation, cite the existence of a municipal Commission on Civil Rights which was created twelve years ago. This agency has made great strides in the fields of civil and human rights in the city and its environs—tackling problems as they arose—thereby gaining the confidence and endorsement of the community at large who joined with us in our goal of maintaining the brotherhood of man as an alternative to the loud and discordant voices of strife.

A beacon of light in these turbulent times, our Commission is considered, by many, as an oasis of guidance and information in matters that relate to the ever prevailing community problems that invariably exist wherever men reside.

The Newark Human Rights Commission for the first time, in several years has a full complement of fifteen commissioners. These men and women, individually and collectively, are dedicated to the amelioration of those problems confronting our many ethnic groups residing within our boundaries.

Our professional staff is to be complimented on the efficiency and directness of its activities in meeting daily chores with equanimity. Without their valuable and knowledgeable help the Commission would find it difficult to carry on its work.

The residents, I believe, are fortunate to have, under the banner called the Newark Human Rights Commission, such devoted and dedicated men and women who fill the positions of both lay commissioners and professional staff.

In compliance with an Executive Order, the Newark Human Rights Commission transmits this report of its operations in 1963.

NEWARK HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS

ALEXANDER MARK,
Chairman to July, 1963

DR. MAXWELL M. KAYE,
Chairman - July, 1963

WILLIAM M. ASHBY

JOHN F. CAHILL

PAUL G. CAVICCHIA, Vice Chairman

BENJAMIN EPSTEIN

RICHARD J. FOLEY

LEONARD L. HOLMAN, Vice Chairman

HICKMAN L. HOLMES

SYLVIA JOSEPHSON

LT. JOHN M. MARKS

LOUIS S. PITTS

WILLIAM PURCELL

HERBERT H. TATE

LUCIUS H. TOMPKINS

DR. JACK YORK

RABBI ISRAEL TURNER

STAFF

DANIEL S. ANTHONY, Executive Director - Resigned August 31, 1963

RALPH ZINN, Assistant Director

JOHN T. BARNES, Community Relations Specialist

MARIE GONZALEZ, Community Relations Specialist
(Puerto Rican and Spanish Affairs)

ROBERT F. PHILLIPS, Field Worker and Research Assistant

MRS. LENA DEANE
Principal Clerk
Stenographer

MRS. REBECCA MITTLEMAN
Principal Clerk
Stenographer

MISS CAROLYN MORGAN
Clerk Stenographer



NEWARK HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
11th ANNUAL REPORT

Prepared by
RALPH ZINN
Acting Director

In association with

MARIE GONZALEZ
Community Relations Specialist
(P.R. and Spanish Affairs)

JOHN T. BARNES
Community Relations Specialist